



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN THE APPLICATION OF:

DAVID MCKINNON

CASE NO.: DC7000USCNT

APPLICATION NO.: 10/808854

CONFIRMATION NO.: 6675

GROUP ART UNIT: 1714

EXAMINER: CAIN

FILED: March 24, 2004

FOR: SOLVENT-BASED RECOVERY AND RECYCLE OF POLYAMIDE

MATERIAL

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98, Applicants bring to the attention of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office the information listed on the enclosed PTO/SB/08A and/or PTO/SB/08B forms. A copy of the information, if required, is also enclosed. Consideration of the information is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and this information is submitted in accord with the provisions of §1.97(c): after the period specified in §1.97(b) but before the mailing of a Final Office Action, or a Notice of Allowance, or any other action that closes prosecution.

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The PTO is authorized to charge the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. **04-1928** (E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Company) in order to complete the requirements for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: May 30, 2007

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PTO/SB/08a (09-06)

Approved for use through 03/31/2007. OMB 0651-0031
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

of

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known						
Application Number	10/808854					
Filing Date	March 24, 2004					
First Named Inventor	David Mckinnon					
Art Unit	1714					
Examiner Name						
Attorney Docket Number	DC7000USCNT					

				U. S. PATENT D	OCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials*	Cite		Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant
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	INO.	Country Code 3-Number 4-Kind Code* (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document		
		DE 12 35 924				
		DE 43 09 427				
		JP 52-113938				
		GB 1 017 985		Great Britain		_
		WO 94/08942	04-28-1994	E.I. Dupont		

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RECOVERY OF LACTAMS FROM POLYAMIDES.

BSOO

Pub. 9.3.67 Badische Anilin. GE. 1,235,924 elg. (Non-Con.) 25,7.62 (GE) as B 68,167

NEW

Recovery of lactams from polyamides consisting wholly or partially of w-aminocarboxylic acids, by heating to 225-350°, in the presence of a depolymerisation catalyst consisting of a mixture of phosphoric and boric acids or anhydrides or a compound that gives boric acid under the reaction conditions, in a stream of steam. The ratio of phosphoric acid to boric is 1:20 to 20:1, pref. 1:3 to 3:1, and 0.1-5% by wt. of catalyst is used, based on the wt. of polyamide. The lactam may be recovered by fractional condensation of the vapours.

ADVANTAGES

Higher volume-time-yields than prior art processes. It can be carried out continuously.

EXAMPLE

1000 pts. polycaprolactam were melted with 1.5

pts. phosphoric acid and 3 pts. boric acid, and the mixture heated to 270-280°. Steam is passed in at 250°. The vapours leaving the vessel were cooled to 100-105° when & caprolactam containing ca. 30% water crystallised. This was extracted and the extract distilled to give pure lactam.

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